



NJVID Commercial Video Working Group
1/13/09 – 1PM – Rutgers University
Meeting Minutes

Present: Brian Richards, Jane Hutchison, Sandie Miller, Isaiah Beard, Tom Nemeth, Wendy Collins from FMG

FMG can send Isaiah MPEG-2 archival-quality source files. He will transcode them to QuickTime files for presentation.

Clarification was made that commercial videos will be available through NJVID only in the QuickTime (.mov) format, not both QuickTime and Flash, ala the NJVID Commons. Since commercial videos will likely be licensed exclusively for streaming-only access, and since NJVID's videos stream off of an Apple Inc. Darwin streaming server, QuickTime is used as the streaming file format rather than Flash video. Update: The Project Team has discussed the possibility of purchasing a streaming Flash server so that commercial videos can stream in Flash and be compatible with Rutgers' annotation tool, which is written for Flash.

There was discussion of why the group has chosen to pursue FMG videos as the initial commercial video collection of NJVID. FMG titles are widespread in institutions' collections throughout the state. FMG also allows the group to find solutions to multiple potential roadblocks, including testing the NJVID user interface and authentication and authorization (A&A) protocol (via a Shibboleth implementation, which provides for statewide A&A using LDAP). Middlesex County College uses Active Directory and therefore can participate as well. The group expects that whatever solutions arise from working with FMG as the initial commercial video collection will be easily applied to other commercial vendors that do not host their own video content and conduct A&A themselves as FMG does. In light of the complexity presented by FMG, smaller vendors should be relatively easy to bring into the fold.

Wendy proposed a plan of action: She will provide Jane with a list of titles from which approximately twenty should be chosen. Some may not have source files, so Jane will go back and forth to whittle down the choices to only those titles that do. These titles will collectively be called "FMG Test." Upon final selection of twenty titles, Wendy will send Isaiah the corresponding MPEG-2 source files who will transcode them to QuickTime for production. Since Rutgers' server is currently filled to capacity, once NJEDGE is ready, Isaiah will send the QT files over to NJEDGE to place on their server. The QT files' data rate is approximately 768kbs. FMG publishes Flash videos on their site in 400kbs and 700kbs varieties. FMG will also send Flash files.

The metadata for the titles can be migrated over in an Excel file. The group went through the list of NJVid metadata fields and mapped them to FMG's metadata fields to make sure there is a one-to-one correspondence between the two:

Title, Duration, Target or Intended Audience, Description, Language, and Organization Name (in this case, Organization Name would read "FMG" as the distributor) are common to the two metadata schemas. The Rights Statement will default to Option 1 within the WMS, indicating "streaming only" video presentation. Date Created will be mapped to Copyright Date. FMG has Producer data that can either be added to the WMS or mapped to the Personal Name field. Work will need to be done to align the Subject field with FMG's taxonomy of subjects (while still keeping the subjects broad enough to accommodate other commercial vendors' subject taxonomies). Finally, FMG can provide title-level metadata but not metadata for learning objects.

The group will work to incorporate the twenty FMG titles into the NJVid web portal. The NJVid web portal *may not* provide access to learning objects, closed captioning, and playlists as FMG's does until development of Rutgers' annotation tool is completed in late third quarter or fourth quarter of 2009, perhaps 2010. However, this statement needs to be checked for accuracy upon further examination of the files that FMG delivers.

Jane Hutchison and Sandie Miller will negotiate with Chris and Doug at FMG to re-license the FMG Test titles. They will negotiate the licensing cost and determine which people will be granted access to the FMG Test collection. The group feels members of the NJVid Project Team and Commercial Videos working group should be granted access so that they may have the opportunity to provide reaction and feedback. FMG will need to furnish log-ins for each person. This new FMG digital license agreement will be used as a model when drafting similar licenses with other commercial vendors.

In sum, "FMG Test" will test, in approximate chronological order:

- File delivery from a commercial video vendor (FMG in this case) to Rutgers for file conversion (ETA: early February – once 20 titles are chosen that have corresponding MPEG-2 sources)
- Sandie Miller and Jane Hutchison will negotiate licensing costs & terms of FMG Test with FMG
- Metadata export from commercial video vendor (FMG) to WMS (ETA: When FMG creates the Excel file and provides logins and passwords)
- File delivery from Rutgers to NJEDge for hosting off of their streaming server, which they need to purchase and install (ETA: when RU's file conversion of the 20 titles is complete and NJEDge is ready for the QT files to be ported over to their streaming server; probably March at the earliest)
- LDAP-oriented A&A using Shibboleth (ETA: Dependent upon completion of first three bullets and file ingestion into Fedora and coding of log-ins with XACML)

- Incorporating a commercial video collection (FMG) into NJVid's user interface (ETA: Dependent upon completion of first four bullets and adding login and password component to web site)

Workflow problem: Many commercial vendors, including FMG, do not send out digital licenses for each title that is licensed by an institution. Solution: Wendy proposed that FMG create and send the licensing institution a small digital license acknowledging that the institution has purchased the title, which the institution would then upload to the WMS. This action would enable the institution's constituents to access the title through NJVid.

Meeting adjourned.